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TAC Minutes, 12/14/2011

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 12/14/11, 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jean Clark, Wayne Chouinard, Paul Kent, John Lentz, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Richard Turcotte, Laura Wiener.

Missing Members and Associates: Corey Rateau,

Visitors Present: David Finney

- Public Comments. David Finney (18 Ashland St) asked TAC if it had been asked by the School Committee to comment on the redistricting plan. Elisabeth responded that TAC would offer feedback, but has not been requested. His concern is about creating a plan that requires children to cross Mass. Ave. He referenced the "Crash Hot Spot" chart we developed several years ago and asked if it has been updated. Answer - not yet.
- Administration.
 - Minutes of 11/9/11 were approved unanimously.
 - Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.
- Town reports.
 - Wayne (DPW) reported that DPW is preparing a Pavement Management Report to assess road conditions before developing a list of roads needing attention. Sidewalks are not included.
 - Laura (Planning) reported that it looks like the Symmes project will be starting up again, probably in the spring of 2012. TAC may be asked to look at changes to the original plan regarding their traffic impacts. One possible iteration involves 25 fewer residential units and the addition of an Assisted Living facility. Also, Steve Kurland has resigned from TAC as Chamber of Commerce rep. Chamber has appointed Paul Kent of Rush-Kent Insurance, located on Court Street.
- TAC Social. January 11 at 8 pm, following a short business meeting.
- Downing Square. Lisa Decker (Open Space and Tree committees) looked at site for opportunities for benches and shade trees. Lighting on Park Ave. is needed. Corner between Lowell and Bow Streets needs further work. A final proposal will be brought back next month.
- Parking on Mill Street. Carol Kowalski has asked the TAC to look at prohibiting parking at 2 spots on Mill Street at Millbrook Drive during peak driving hours in front of Holovak and Coughlin, to allow for freer travel through the Mill Street intersection. It appears that the auto repair store uses the spaces (B & R Auto). Discussion was put on hold to get input from Corey.
- Park and Wachusett. Report is forthcoming.
- Schools.

- Dallin. State installed signs that conflict with signs already in place. Jeff/Dan Warren will look into it.
 - Bishop. Ed checked for signs that were supposed to be installed. Ridge and Stowcroft is missing a School Zone Ahead, and crosswalk signs are needed at Crosby and College. Others were installed. Considering reviewing Ph 2 and resurrecting the plan for Stowcroft developed a few years ago. Jean will help.
 - Ottoson. Moving slowly. Working Group will coordinate with OPAC.
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- CVS Post Build Analysis. Ed observed and submitted data. Morning peak hour seems to be improved over previous existing conditions.
 - Hurd Field. Wayne reported, looking at possibly using grant funding available for Rain Gardens as a way to reduce impervious surface. Also will include striping of parking spaces.
 - Lake Street. Working Group had first meeting and has started collecting information. Working Group includes Howard, Scott, Rich, Wayne and Jeff.
 - CLAMP. Public meeting has been scheduled for January 10, 2012 to review options.
 - Taxi Spaces at MBTA Bus Turnaround in the Heights. Laura reported that she spoke to the T regarding moving one of the two taxi spaces onto the MBTA property. Initially they were open to the idea but then said no. Jeff suggested asking them to do it as a pilot project, for a short period of time to see how it works.
 - Mass/Water/Spengler. New signs have been installed and seem to be working better. Ed will draft a letter to Selectmen asking for more time to test before making a final decision. Follow up counts should be conducted in April.
 - Route 77 Key Bus Routes Program. Selectmen's recommendations have been delivered to the T.
 - Mass. Ave. Corridor Project. Nearing end of 75% design to be submitted to MassDOT Highway Division for their comments. We will soon have a draft for Linwood Street intersection Working Group to look at.
 - Massachusetts Transportation Finance. Insufficient funding for all modes. There will be an educational campaign for residents to understand funding issues better. TAC will participate.
 - Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Meeting Materials:

Meeting packet for November: Agenda, 12/14/11; Minutes of 11/9/11; Working Group List, 12/14/11; BoS/ARB Request Status, 12/14/2011; Individual Action List, 11/9/2011; Status of TAC Approved Actions, 12/14/11; MAPC Transportation Finance Campaign; Measurements After CVS Built and In Operation for a Year; Memo to Board of Selectmen From TAC re. Crosswalk at Mass. Ave/Water St/Spengler Way, dated December, 2011; Thompson School Site Plan; Memo to TAC Co-Chairs from Marie Krepelka, dated November 28, 2011 Re: Intersection of Old Mystic Street and Hutchinson Road; Letter to Richard Davey, MassDOT, from State Legislative Delegation Re. Green Line Extension, dated November 23, 2011;

- Letter to Erik Scheier, MBTA Project Manager, from Arlington Board of Selectmen, Re: Key Bus Routes Program, Route 77 Arlington, dated December 15, 2011;
- Memo to TAC from Wayne Chouinard, Re. Update Items, dated December 14, 2011
- Memo to TAC from Howard Muise re. Massachusetts Transportation Financing Crisis, dated December 14, 2011;
- Email from Mark Edry to Jeffrey Maxtutis Re Pedestrian crossing flag update, dated December 13, 2011;
- Memo from Kurt Kelley to Wayne Chouinard Re. Intersection Improvements—Park Avenue/Wachusett Avenue, dated December 13, 2011